

The Courtyard aims to offer an outstanding educational and social provision that will equip our students with the skills and experiences needed to discover and live out their potential



St Mary Magdalene Academy
The Courtyard

The Courtyard Fortnightly Newsletter—Friday 15 January 2021

Notices from Headteacher—Deborah Shepherd

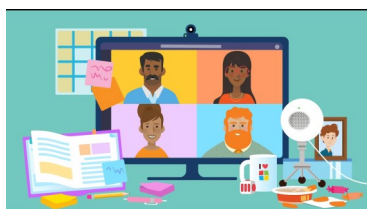
First notice:

It feels like I write the same opening sentence to all of my Headteacher comments at the moment - We are currently living through unprecedented times! The first two weeks of the Spring term have been unlike any two weeks I have ever experienced in my time in education. The challenges that we have been presented with could have been overwhelming but as a community we have been strong and resilient.

I am hugely thankful to you all, pupils, parents and staff, for the support and kindness that you have shown this past fortnight. It is incredibly encouraging as a Headteacher to know that I have the confidence of our community when the difficult decisions need to be made. On Wednesday 6 January, Education Secretary Gavin Williamson informed parents that if they had any complaints regarding the provision schools were offering, then they could log them on the Ofsted website. Within 2 days, the Ofsted website received over 5000 **positive** comments from parents in support of schools. This made me incredibly proud, both as a parent and as a Headteacher.



Currently we are educating approximately 25% of our pupils in school and 75% remotely. The staff team have worked incredibly well to provide a high quality learning programme online. If, however, you are finding that your child is not engaging in the learning online, please call the school to discuss possible ways in which we can help. It may be that you decide that you feel it would be best for your child to come into school. We will respect your decision and welcome your child in school.



Second notice: Covid response - website update

A new section of the school website has been created to inform families of the measures the school is taking to educate, guide and support during this pandemic. The section contains information about safety procedures, remote learning and pastoral support. Please take time to look - <https://smmathecourtyard.org/covid-response/>

STAY AT HOME

**PROTECT
THE NHS**

**save
lives**

[NHS.UK/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

The Courtyard Fortnightly Newsletter—Friday 15 January 2021

Notice from Deputy for Behaviour and Safety —Louise Norman

I would like to wish everyone a very happy new year! It has not been the start of a new year we would normally be celebrating, however, I am so incredibly proud to be able to share our own Courtyard celebrations as our amazing students adapt to remote learning. The celebrations below show just how much the students have been engaging with their online learning through these challenging times!

Please find all the celebrations, achievements and attendance figures below and on the next page.



Star of the Week - KS4

- Charlie for understanding and knowing features of a spreadsheet in ICT lessons
- Jace for completing all set PSD work to a high standard and submitting it on time
- Dorian for giving so much energy dancing during assembly.
- Alfie for completing all his lessons yesterday in his first proper day of self-isolation school.
- Paris for completing her work and using her speech and language skills more regularly.
Fred for making an excellent start on his essay about teenagers and stress.
- Prom for completing all of his maths and joining our zoom classes.
- Aymene for showing good initiative with his world studies work.
- William for completing his art lesson with well thought out answers to the questions.
- Nevan for putting in a good amount of effort when analysing an article.
- Max for engaging and completing the ICT task set.

Star of the Week - KS5

- Tyrese Q for completing the PE work to a high standard.
- Azariah for being a good friend to Henry and having nice conversation with Miss Trip on google meet.
- Dennis for submitting high quality hospitality work.
- Gavrill and Charlotte for completing RSE work to a high standard and expressing themselves very clearly in writing.
- Nathan N for being on time and engaging well with the employer during the video call with Sir Robert McAlpine
- Nathan M, Hamza and Liz for working together as a team and completing all work after the video call with Red Brick Road
- Dennis and Kion for their fantastic interaction and enthusiasm during WE with Soapbox!
- Constantine for completing his maths work to a high standard during our Google Meet lessons

The Courtyard aims to offer an outstanding educational and social provision that will equip our students with the skills and experiences needed to discover and live out their potential



St Mary Magdalene Academy
The Courtyard

The Courtyard Fortnightly Newsletter—Friday 15 January 2021

Most merits this week	Bronze – 200 points	Silver – 350 points	Gold – 500 points	Platinum – 700 points
Henry – 74 Nathan N – 75 Kion – 76 Fred – 78 Aymene – 79 Dennis – 91 Nathan M - 92	Alexia Blaise Jonathan Jace Dennis Lula Constantine William Alfie Callum Paris	Max Henry Veronica Keira Prom Norville Nevan Katie Nathan N Tyrese E John Fred Shane Liz Gavril Tyrese Q Jack Kion	Xaundre Dillon Charlie James Enkel Charlotte Hamza ElSharief Dorian Angelina Azariah Nathan M Aymene	

Votes for schools topic

This week's topic we were keen to avoid anything Coronavirus-related, so instead will be looking at Brexit! Students will be reflecting on the potential impact of the UK's departure from the EU with the question: **"Will Brexit affect you?"**

Students will be exploring the ways in which Brexit might alter future plans or ambitions for young people, while also considering the areas in which the changes might not be felt so acutely.

Please find attached 'Home Information Guide'

Welcome to VotesforSchools!



Each week, VotesforSchools provides lessons to pupils all over the country, asking them about the issues that matter to them. Their votes are recorded and sent out to charities, organisations & decision-makers to help make a difference.



This doesn't stop while schools are closed either. Until things go back to normal, we'll be making this weekly guide to help you and your families learn at home! This week, your pack includes:



Top tips for learning at home



Taking your VotePack further



Learn something new

Questions or suggestions? Get in touch on social media @votesforschools, or use the hashtag #votesathome!



#VOTESATHOME

©VotesforSchools2021/21

The Courtyard aims to offer an outstanding educational and social provision that will equip our students with the skills and experiences needed to discover and live out their potential



St Mary Magdalene Academy
The Courtyard

T&L Notice from Deputy for Teaching and Learning—Katherine Healy

Welcome back to the Spring Term! We have had to really pull together as a team and as a school in order to enable our school to open and for pupils to start learning remotely with very short notice this term, but we are pleased with how the term has started.

Over the last 2 weeks, engagement in online and paper-based learning stands at 71%. Whilst this is high, there are still a number of pupils who have yet to fully engage and there are also a number of pupils from the 71% who are not accessing the full timetable of lessons their teachers are providing for them. Please encourage your child to try to keep up with their learning and let the school know if your child is having difficulty accessing so that we can support as best we can.

We have just released on our website a Remote Learning Handbook which outlines steps to be followed in order to access the work on Google Classroom and also expectations of learning from pupils, parents and teachers. A copy is attached to the email of this newsletter.

Independent Learning Task

As a school, we have decided to pause the ILTs whilst remote learning is in place. This is due to the large amount of independent learning which is taking place and being monitored by staff.

Google Classroom and pupil timetables

All pupils are following their normal school timetable and schedule of lessons. This has been shared with all pupils on Google Classroom. Please contact the school if you wish a copy to be emailed to you.

Google Classroom has not yet developed their platform to allow parental access (without you asking your child for their login details and passwords). Currently, parental involvement is in the form of 'Guardian email summaries'. ***Please contact the school if you wish to receive the email summaries.***



Google Classroom

What's included in an email summary?

- Missing work—Work not turned in when the summary was sent.
- Upcoming work—Work that's due today and tomorrow (for daily emails) or that's due in the upcoming week (for weekly emails).
- Class activity—Announcements, assignments, and questions recently posted by teachers.

Guardians who sign up for email summaries can't see the Stream, Classwork, People, or Grades pages in Classroom.

How to get guardian summaries?

- A teacher or admin sends an invitation to a guardian.
- After a guardian accepts the invitation, they choose when to get email summaries for each of their students.

When do guardians get summaries?

Guardians can get emails daily or weekly and can unsubscribe at any time. Guardians won't get an email summary if:

- There's no activity to report for the given time period.
- All their student's teachers turned off notifications for their classes.
- They accepted the invitation but chose not to get any summaries.
- They aren't connected to any student in Classroom.

The Courtyard has just published a Remote Learning Handbook for Pupils and Parents. It is attached to the email and is also on the website here: <https://smmathecourtyard.org/covid-response/remote-learning-handbook/>

The Courtyard aims to offer an outstanding educational and social provision that will equip our students with the skills and experiences needed to discover and live out their potential



St Mary Magdalene Academy

The Courtyard

Courtyard Parent Workshops: 2020-21

The next Parent Workshop will be on **Wednesday 27th January from 4-5pm.**

It will be held by the **Miss Norman, The Courtyard's Deputy for Pastoral.** The focus of the workshop will be **'Pastoral Care—strategies used at The Courtyard which could transfer to home.'**

The most successful strategies are the ones which are used consistently, so the partnership between home and school is invaluable in ensuring the best support for our pupils.

As usual, the workshop will be conducted via Google Meet or Zoom. The invitation to join will be sent on the Monday before the workshop. The session will also be recorded and emailed to parents who are unable to attend. **I would encourage you to attend if you can so that you can ask questions to our host and get immediate responses to any specific inquiries.**



Sixth Form

Notice from the Head of Sixth Form and Careers—Elena Vidal

SIXTH FORM

On Friday 22nd January (from 11.45am to 11.15pm) students will have a masterclass with SCOPE, the disability equality charity in England and Wales.

They offer a careers service for SEND students called Career Pathway.

Two career advisers will be telling students about the careers service that they run and how they advise/ support students if they access the service.

SCOPE

The Sixth Form and Careers section of the website has a wealth of information regarding work experience and careers options for our pupils. It is constantly being updated so please check-in regularly to keep up with all our news! <https://smmathecourtyard.org/careers/>

The 'Developing your employability skills' section will be ready to view in the coming days....

The last 2 weeks at The Courtyard

Remote Learning—As pupils and staff settle into the term and become more accustomed to remote learning, engagement rates are rising.

Meeting details

People (6) Chat

126 / total x 150 =

Kion Allen 2:36 PM
done
let me check
 $9 + 10 + 11 + 10 + 10 = 50$
yeah

Norville Carter 2:37 PM
32

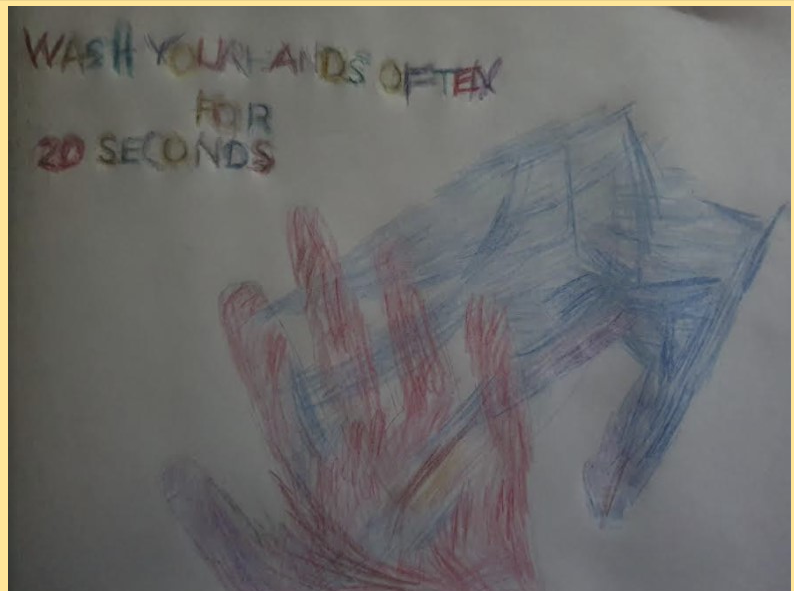
You 2:37 PM
 $20/100 \times 6400 =$

Kion Allen 2:37 PM
okay

You 2:38 PM
fred

Send a message to everyone

Maths with Mr Aitken: Kion—Y13, Henry—Y13, Gavrill—Y14, Fred—Y11 and Norville—Y11

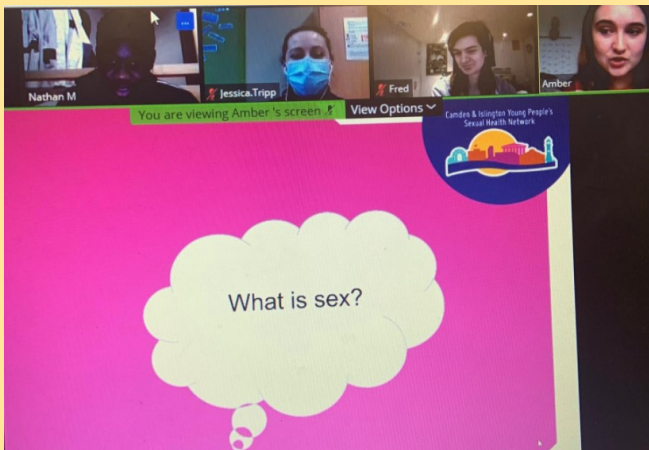


Independence Group: Azi—Y13 considers a hazard in the community and a strategy to prevent it

Remote Learning—in school:
Henry—Y13

The last 2 weeks at The Courtyard

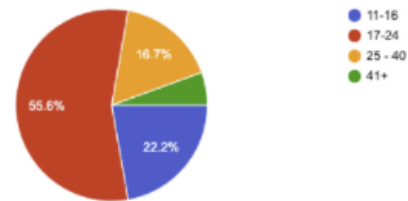
ICT: The Courtyard pupils consider aspects connected to their business plan models and prepare to write their persuasive letters.



PSD Workshop by The Camden and Islington Young People's Sexual Health Network: An important question being considered by Nathan M—Y14 and Fred—Y11 with Miss Tripp.

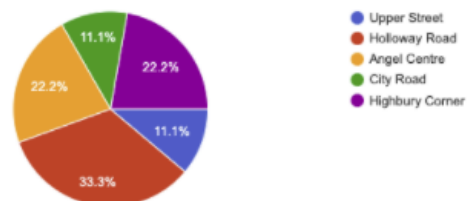
6. What age group will be buying from your business?

18 responses



9. Where will your shop be situated in Islington?

18 responses



PSD work on bullying:

Below: John—Y10

LO: I can identify different types of bullying, what the impact of bullying might be and strategies to help us if we are being bullied.

TASK 1: Write a sentence in your own words to explain what is meant by bullying behaviour.

Your answer: Bullying can come in many forms from such as: intentional physical and verbal harassment. ✓ *This is an excellent sentence to describe bullying.*



LO: I can identify different types of bullying, what the impact of bullying might be and strategies to help us if we are being bullied.

TASK 3: Watch the video 'What to do if you're being bullied' by following the link below. Then write your own 3 Top Tips for dealing with bullying in the space below.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z7sb6v4>



My 3 Top Tips for dealing with bullying are...

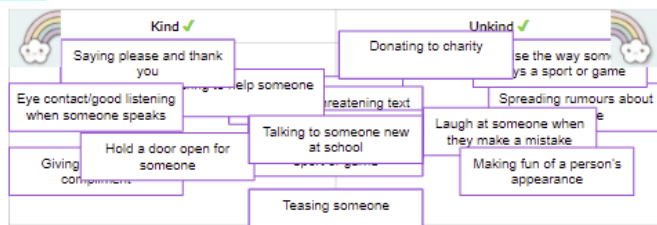
Your Answer:

1. Speak to someone ✓
2. Stand up to the problem (with friends if you feel unsafe) ✓
3. Ignore it



LO: I can respond to stimuli depicting kindness and unkindness

TASK 1: Click and drag the examples of kindness and unkindness below to sort them into the table.



CHALLENGE: Arrange the examples of kindness and unkindness in order from most kind/unkind to least kind/unkind. Then write a sentence to explain why you think your two top examples are the most kind and most unkind.

Your Answer: Saying please and thank you is good manners, and manners show respect. Making fun of a person's appearance is unkind as it might make them feel insecure. ✓

PSD work on bullying: Above: Alfie—Y10

LO: I can respond to stimuli depicting kindness and unkindness

TASK 3: Watch the video *Why Being Kind Is Good For Us* by following the link below then answer the three questions about kindness.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/54921787>

1. List 3 examples of kindness from the video.

Your answer:

1. Helping people ✓
2. Giving something to poor people ✓
3. Help the elderly people when they needed ✓

2. How do you think acts of kindness make people feel?

Your Answer: Acts of kindness make people feel happy and motivated because it improves mental health. ✓

3. Describe an example of a time when you showed kindness.

Your answer: I helped my grandparents to walk on upstairs because they couldn't walk carefully. ✓ *This is very kind!*



PSD work on bullying: Above: Enkel—Y9

Role Model:

1. Who are they? my mum

2. Why do you admire them? because she's been through so much but still takes care like she's never been hurt before.

3. What are their qualities?

Strong in loving funny caring brave very trustworthy openminded generous

PSD work on bullying:

Left: Ruby—Y10

The last 2 weeks at The Courtyard



Social interactions are still encouraged between those at home and those in school: Azi and Henry—Y13



Independent work happens both at home and at school: Alfie—Y10 doing his Maths work on Google Classroom.



The popular daily assembly attracts both man and beast in its attendees: Charlie—Y9 and Archie

The last 2 weeks at The Courtyard



Sixth Form Masterclass Assembly delivered by the construction company Wates:

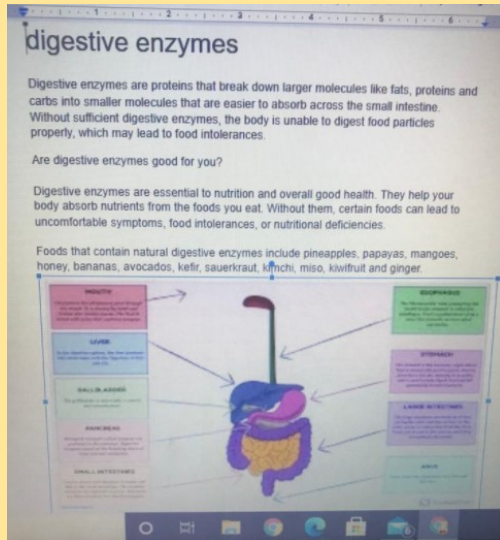
Students explored the skills and qualities which employers are looking for.

Working off the mince pies: Mr Saunders ensures everyone's Christmas treats are worked off as soon as possible!



Mrs Healy's assembly about K-Pop gets a few shoulder bops and shimmies in the final BTS song: Dynamite. William—Y10, Mr Aitken, James—Y9, Gregg and Henry—Y13

The last 2 weeks at The Courtyard



Science: Max—Y11 completes his task on the digestive system.



Table Tennis continues: ElSharief—Y13 and James—Y9

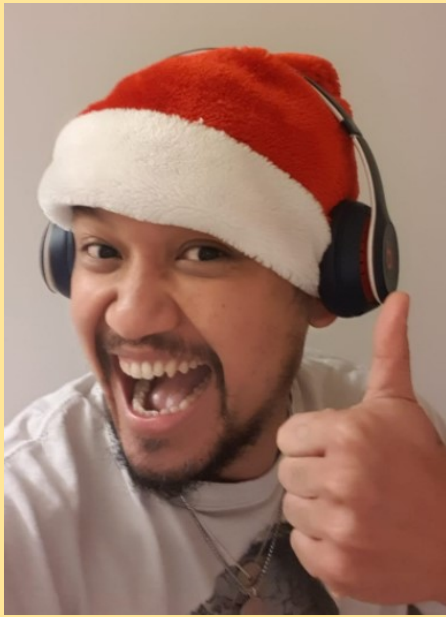


Everyone loves a quiz!: Mr Aitken's assembly attracts a high number of staff and students to demonstrate their knowledge of key events of 2020.



ICT: Dorian—Y10 and Keira—Y11 take part in a live lesson via Google Meet.

The last 2 weeks at The Courtyard



Ms Vidal worked her magic with Beats by Dre and persuaded them that The Courtyard staff also deserved a Christmas present this year! Mr Aitken, Ella, Gregg, Miss Luca and Miss Tripp feel the beats.....

Monty has a friend!: And Miss Barton's beloved Ted made it to England to join her and hopefully become part of The Courtyard family...

